



TAEP Producer Diversification Program

Organics Criteria

For Fiscal Year 2011 – 2012

Program Criteria:

- This information is current as of **March 15, 2011** and is a supplement to the TAEP 2011 Application and Guidelines.
- **Producers** are eligible for the following cost share percentages for qualified expenses:
 - **Standard** - 35% cost share up to a maximum of \$10,000.
 - **Priority** - 50% cost share up to a maximum of \$15,000 for producers meeting special requirements.
- The proposed activity must encompass **quality expansion** or **improvement** of the applicant's business. Eligible categories include:
 - Farm Infrastructure
 - Specialty Equipment
 - Marketing

Competitive Projects – Organics:

Priority is given to projects that are focused on improving or increasing production. Marketing projects are also strongly considered depending on the individual producer's market.

Priority Cost Share – Special Requirements for 50% Cost Share:

Who is eligible?

- The applicant must be USDA certified organic or working towards certification to qualify
- The applicant must be USDA certified at the time of the reimbursement request

Examples of Eligible Items:

Brochures
 Fan – *greenhouse*
 Fertilizer equipment
 Field planter
 Filter system - *irrigation*

Flail mower
Gravel-
 - *foundation*
 - *propagation area*
 - *parking lot*

Greenhouse-
 - *structure*
 - *hydroponic*
 - *overwintering*
 - *shade system*

Heater – *greenhouse*
High tunnel/hoop house

Irrigation -

- *controller system*
- *drip*
- *filter system*
- *overhead*
- *pivot*
- *pump*
- *water level control*
- *water storage tanks*

Lighting -

- *greenhouse*
- *parking*
- *pavilion/retail shelter*
- *not for aesthetics*

Loading area/dock

Mulch machine

Mulch layer/lifter

Packing building

Packing line equipment

Parking area -

- *gravel*
- *pavement*
- *site preparation*
- *space markers*

Pavilion – *retail sales*

Pond liner- *irrigation system*

Production line equipment

Pump – *irrigation, filter*

Retail shelter

Roller crimper

Row covers

Signs

Sink – *produce washing*

Soil mixer

Spader

Spray equipment

Sprayer

Thermostat – *greenhouse*

Trellis materials

Fruit stock

- *apples*
- *blackberries*
- *blueberries*
- *peaches*
- *grapes*
- *raspberries*

Walk-in cooler

Website development

Wood boiler

Examples of Ineligible Items:

Building – *storage*

Chemicals

Computers

Containers - *bottles, pots*

Drip tape

Driveways

Electrical service

Fees

- *domain*
- *hosting*
- *membership*

Fencing

Fertilizer

Forklift

Fuel

Give-a-way items

Golf Cart

Insecticides

Labor – *applicant or employees of applicant*

Landscaping

Land – *clearing of*

Livestock

Maintenance of existing structures

Meeting expenses

Merchandise

Motorized vehicles

Mower

Office equipment

Permits

Pesticides

Plants – *liners/plugs*

Ponds – *digging of for a water source*

Product development

Property – *purchase or debt payment*

Renovations of existing structures

Seeds – *produce, nursery, flowers, etc.*

Software

Store - *general*

Tractor

Trade show expenses

Trailers – *livestock*

Used equipment

Water source creation – *ponds/wells*

Website – *annual or hosting fees*

Wells – *drilling of*

Contact:

- For more information regarding the TAEP Producer Diversification Program, TDA Market Development, and Organics – contact **Jon Frady** at 615-837-5344, Producer.Diversification@TN.gov, or Jon.Frady@TN.gov
- Check for updates at <http://www.TN.gov/agriculture/enhancement> or 1-800-342-8206